

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DACCA 00450 231234Z

46

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

AGR-05 EUR-12 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 INT-05 FEAE-00 H-01 IO-10

DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /110 W

----- 008205

R 230927Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5561

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 0450

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EGEN, BG

SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT (ECONOMIC ISSUES)

REF: DACCA 0400

1. IN JANUARY 20 SPEECH OPENING PARLIAMENT, PRESIDENT GAVE STRAIGHTFORWARD RUNDOWN OF ECONOMIC POLICY DECISIONS AND ACTIONS OVER PAST YEAR WITH SOME RECAPITULATION OF ALREADY ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR MONTHS AHEAD. TEXT BEING POUCHED BY AIRGRAM. SPEECH IGNORED NO ECONOMIC SECTORS OR PROGRAMS BUT CONTAINED NO SURPRISES OR IMPORTANT NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS.

2. PRESIDENT CITED BDG MEASURES TO:

A. BOOST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, PROCURE FOOD LOCALLY AND ASSURE ADEQUATE SUPPLIES THROUGH IMPORTS;

B. "ELIMINATE" BUDGETARY DEFICIT BY REDUCING FOOD AND AG INPUT SUBSIDES;

C. SECURE INTERNATIONAL HELP TO COPE WITH SHARP PRICE RISE OF IMPORTED GOODS;

D. BOOST INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION BY REVISING INVESTMENT POLICY,

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DACCA 00450 231234Z

ESTABLISHING (LABOR) DISCIPLINE, AND IMPORTING RAW MATERIALS; AND

E. PROVIDE SPECIAL FACILITIES TO PROMOTE FOREIGN INVESTMENT WITH COLLABORATION WITH BDG AND PRIVATE (DOMESTIC) ENTERPRISES.

3. AS NOTED REFTTEL, PRESIDENT ALSO DEVOTED PARAGRAPH (ONE OF THIRTY) TO POPULATION PROBLEMS, SAYING QTE BANGLADESH, THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, IS APPROACHING POPULATION EXPLOSION. THE INCREASING RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH MAY FRUSTRATE ALL OUR ENDEAVOURS TO FREE US FROM THE CURSES OF POVERTY, ILLITERACY, ILL HEALTH AND FOOD CRISIS. EACH YEAR ABOUT 20 LAKH (2 MILLION) CHILDREN AND 10 LAKH (ONE MILLION) UNEMPLOYED ARE BEING ADDED. OUR POPULATION WILL BE DOUBLED IN THE NEAR FUTURE UNLESS WE CAN CHECK ITS GROWTH. IT WILL BE BEYOND ANYBODY'S ABILITY TO COPE WITH THE TREMENDOUS PRESSURE THAT THIS GROWTH WILL EXERT ON THE ECONOMY AND THE SOCIETY. THE LAND-MAN RATIO IN BANGLADESH HAS ALMOST REACHED THE DANGER MARK. CHECKING THE RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH IS A PREREQUISITE FOR OUR OVERALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. IT IS, THEREFORE, ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO CONTROL POPULATION GROWTH ON A PRIORITY BASIS FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NECESSARY STEPS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE WORLD BANK, CERTAIN FRIENDLY COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. THE BIRTH RATE IS EXPECTED TO COME DOWN FROM 3 PERCENT TO 2.8 PERCENT AT THE END OF THE FIRST FIVE YEAR PLAN. UNQUOTE

4. FOR FUTURE, PRESIDENT ALSO MADE CLEAR BDG DETERMINATION TO:

- A. STABILIZE COMMODITY PRICES;
- B. ENCOURAGE JUTE CULTIVATORS BY GIVING THEM FAIR PRICE;
- C. ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD PRODUCTION AND "SIMULTANEOUSLY" WITHIN INCREASING PRODUCTION, TO ARRANGE FOR "PROCUREMENT AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION" OF FOODGRAINS;
- D. SOLVE THREE BASIC IMPEDIMENTS TO IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, VIZ "OVERPOPULATION, MALNUTRITION, AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASE".

5. PRESIDENT ALSO CITED PROGRESS/ACTIONS TAKEN IN FOLLOWING AREAS:

- A. LAND REFORM
- B. ANTI-SMUGGLING EFFORTS
- C. RURAL DEVELOPMENT
- D. TRANSPORTATION (INCLUDING DACCA-ARICHA BRIDGES)
- E. COPING WITH 1974 FLOOD; AND
- F. MITIGATING UNAVOIDABLE FAMINE CONDITIONS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DACCA 00450 231234Z

6. COMMENT: SPEECH WAS NOT VEHICLE FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW ECONOMIC POLICIES, BUT RATHER OCCASION FOR RESTATING DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND REVIEWING PAST PROBLEMS AND PRESENT EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THEM.
CHESLAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DACCA00450
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750025-0791
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750127/aaaaaxxc.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DACCA 0400
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT (ECONOMIC ISSUES)
TAGS: EAID, EGEN, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006